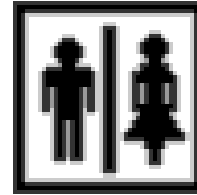


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DHS / FEMA Joint Field Office Orientation

Administrative

- Emergency Exits are
- Restrooms are
- Turn pagers and cell phones to vibrate
- Side bar conversations are discouraged.



Orientation Objectives

- Describe FEMA's Role in Disaster Operations
- Explain the purpose of the Joint Field Office
- List the major FEMA Programs
- Identify where to go for information on Policies and Procedures

Introductions

- Your name?
- Position in the organization?
- Where you are from?
- Your course expectation is?

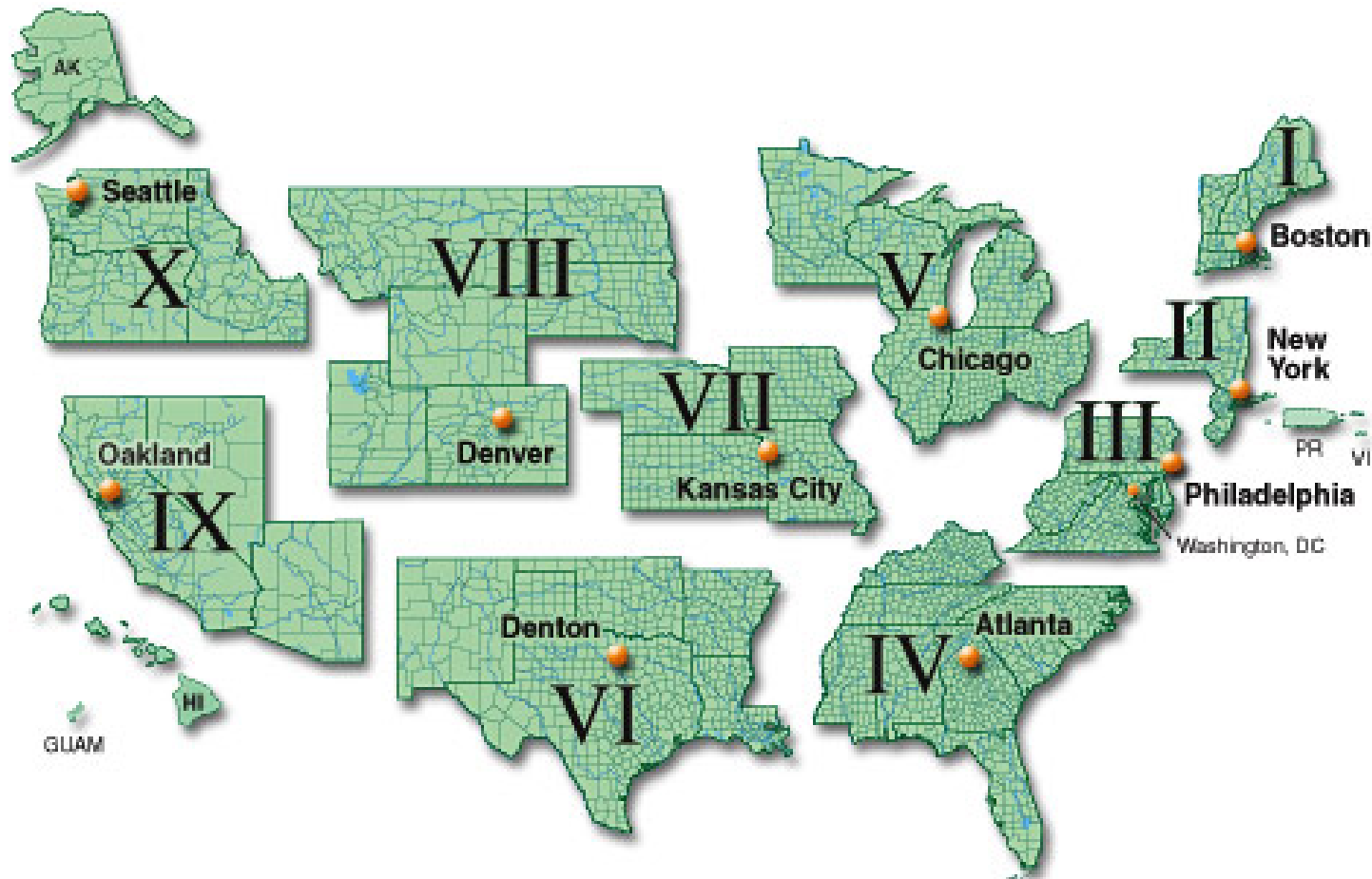
Disaster Relief History

- 1950 Federal Disaster Relief Act
- 1974 Stafford Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
<http://www.fema.gov/library/stafact.shtm>
- 1979 creation of FEMA
- 2003 creation of Homeland Security Department
- FEMA placed under DHS Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate

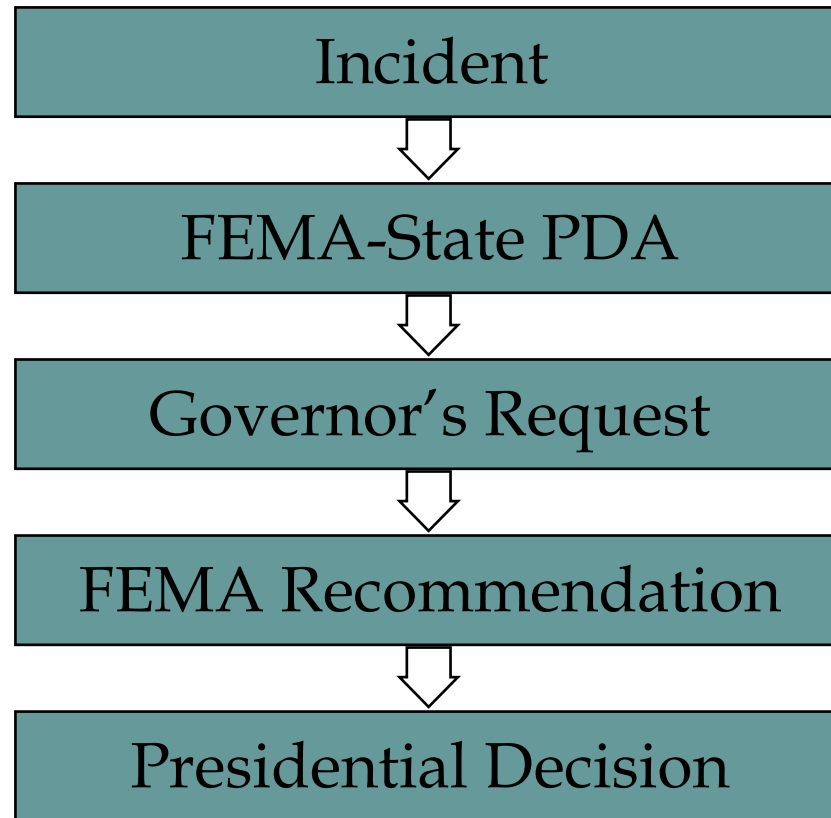
FEMA Mission

- Reduce loss of life and property
- Protect Critical Infrastructure
- Organize and support comprehensive emergency management plan

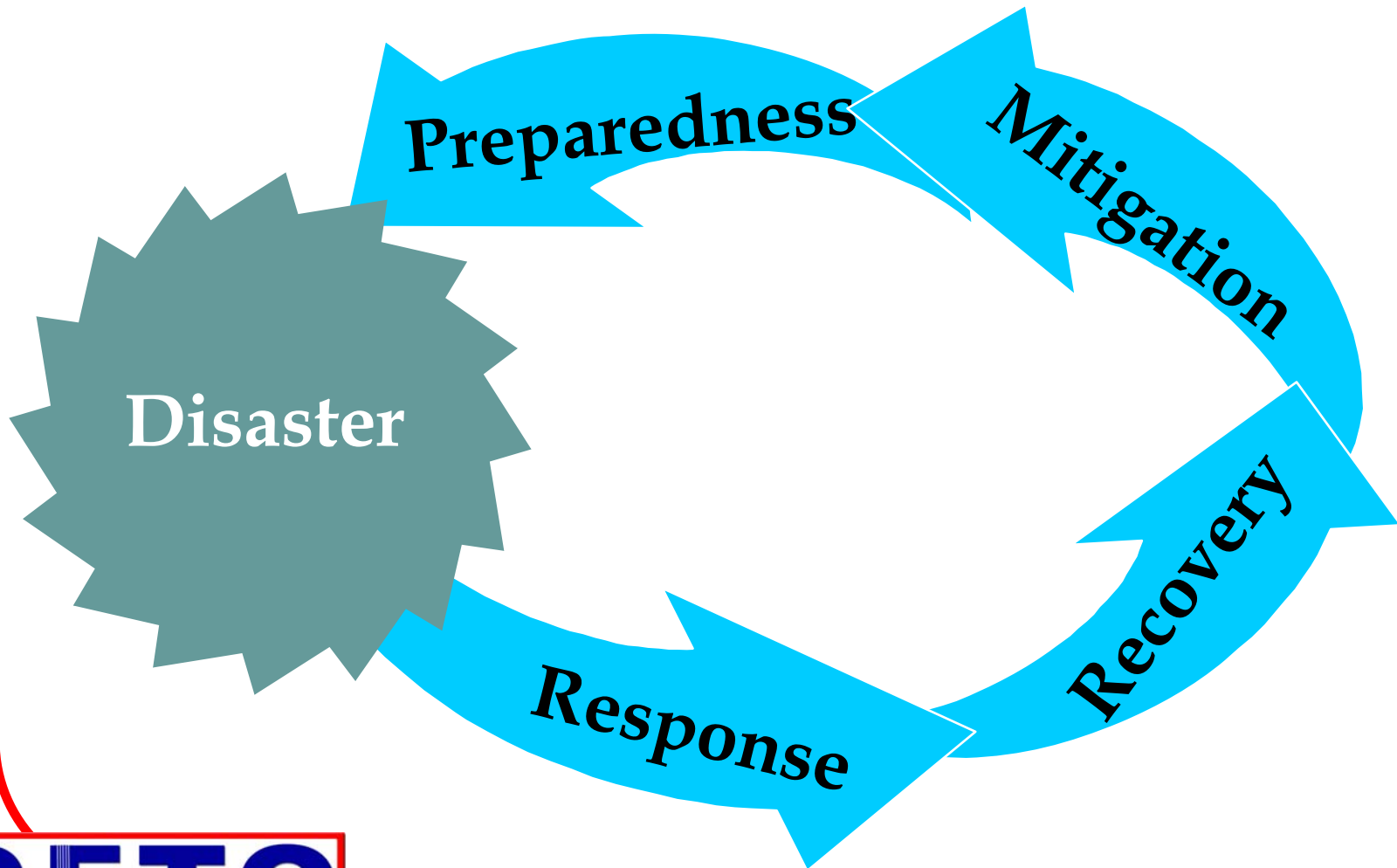
FEMA Regions



The Declaration Process



The Disaster Cycle



FEMA as Coordinator

FEMA coordinates the Federal Government's disaster response and recovery efforts by building partnerships.

Federal Response Operations

- Organized based on National Incident Management System (**NIMS**) and the National Response Plan (**NRP**)
 - Federal response based on Emergency Support Functions (**ESF**). 15 ESFs and 27 federal agencies and the American Red Cross (ARC)
- Stafford Act – enabling legislation for disaster assistance programs

Why do we need NIMS?

Homeland Security Presidential Directive #5

Directed Secretary, DHS to develop and administer:

1. **National Incident Management System (NIMS)**
 - Core set of concepts, principles and terminology for incident command (ICS) and multi-agency coordination
2. **National Response Plan (NRP)**
 - All-discipline, all-hazards plan

NIMS Concepts and Principles

- Flexible framework that:
 - Facilitates working together . . .
 - At any type of incident . . .
 - Regardless of size, location, or complexity
- Flexible structures
- Requirements for processes, procedures, and systems



What is the NRP?

- **N**ational **R**esponse **P**lan

Establishes

- Federal coordination structures/measures
- Direction for incorporation of existing plans
- Consistent approach to managing incidents
- All Federal Agencies are organized under Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

Joint Field Office

The JFO is a multi-agency coordination center.

It provides a central location for coordination of Federal, State, local, tribal, nongovernmental, and private-sector organizations.

Getting Started

- Meeting with your Supervisor
- Getting Feedback on Performance
- Managing your Stress

Stress / Wellness

- Stress is a normal reaction to working in a disaster situation
- People have different stress thresholds. Don't compare yourself to others. If you need a break, say so!
- Taking care of yourself is the first step in being able to help others

Good Stress v. Bad Stress



Good stress

A part of daily life. A force that motivates, excites & energizes.



Bad stress



Forces that create 'wear & tear' on ones being. Constant, unaddressed demands on a person.

Psychological Symptoms

- Irritability and anger
- Mood swings
- Sadness and depression
- Relationship/marital conflicts
- Prolonged feelings of worthlessness



Unhealthy Response to Stress

- Excessive Drinking
- Overeating
- Using drugs 
- Keeping emotions bottled up 



Healthy Response to Stress

- Get enough sleep
- Exercise
- Eat a balanced diet
- Balance work, play, and rest
- Allow yourself to receive as well as give.
- Connect with others
- Use spiritual resources



FEMA's Core Values

- Integrity
- Innovation
- Accountability
- Respect
- Trust
- Customer Focus
- Public Stewardship
- Partnership
- Diversity
- Compassion

FEMA's Customers

- Internal Customers
 - FEMA Employees
 - Other Federal Agencies
- External Customers
 - Disaster Victims
 - The public
 - State and local agencies
 - Community-based organizations
 - Volunteers

Individual Assistance

- Serves families and businesses who have been affected by disasters
- Provides:
 - Temporary Housing
 - Other Needs Assistance
 - Crisis Counseling

Individual Assistance (cont'd)

Also Provides:

- Legal Assistance
- Low-interest Loans (SBA)
- Grants
- Disaster Unemployment Assistance
- Other Special Assistance

Individual Assistance (cont'd)

Partnerships With . . .

- Voluntary Organizations
- Small Business Administration
- State, Local, and Tribal Governments
- Other Federal Agencies



Public Assistance

Assistance to help municipalities and certain private nonprofit groups:

- Remove debris
- Repair public buildings, roads, bridges and other infrastructure
- Perform certain emergency protective measures

Hazard Mitigation

- Long term, permanent improvements
- Provides technical assistance and resources to individuals and communities
- Aimed at reducing future losses

National Teleregistration Center

- Applicants can apply for assistance using the toll-free number from anywhere in the country
- Operators are available to translate many languages

1-800-621-3362

1-800-462-7585 (TTY)

Obtaining Help

- **Disaster Recovery Centers**
 - Status of applications
 - Mitigation advice
 - Crisis counseling
 - Educational materials

Helpline

1-800-621-3362

1-800-462-7585 (TTY)

Equal Rights Policies

FEMA does not tolerate discrimination

If you feel that you have been
discriminated against or harassed
contact the Equal Rights Office

Guarding Confidentiality

- JFO staff cannot release any personal information to the public about applicants or fellow employees without their consent
- Do not leave applicant information where it can be viewed by others

Human Resources and Administration

- Conditions of Employment
- Recordkeeping
 - ADD 1-888-853-9648 (check-in/out)
 - Timesheets / Quick Time
 - Shred or recycle discarded materials
- Travel Reimbursement

Safety and Security

- Remember to . . .
 - Report any hazards you see
 - Report any injuries
 - Wear your badge in the JFO/DRC
 - Be careful after working hours

Orientation Summary

- FEMAs Role in Disaster Operations
- The Joint Field Office
- Disaster Assistance Programs
- Policies and Procedures

Evaluation

Please take a few moments to fill out your Evaluation and hand them into the instructor.

Your input is important to us!

